

VZCZCXRO2820
PP RUEHDH
DE RUEHRH #0754 1590849
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 080849Z JUN 09
FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0923
INFO RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH 0176
RUEHDH/AMCONSUL DHAHRAN 0101

UNCLAS RIYADH 000754

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPAL](#) [SA](#)

SUBJECT: Saudi Monarch to Obama: Enforce Palestinian solution if required

¶1. On June 7, the pan-Arab daily Al-Hayat published a front-page article detailing Saudi King Abdullah's comments to visiting US President Obama during meetings held in Riyadh June 3, as relayed to the paper by "well-informed sources."

¶2. The article, under the headline "The King to Obama: Arab patience running out and a solution to the Palestinian question is the magic key" noted that the two rounds of talks between the leaders contained "a lot of details that indicate that they are laying the foundation for a strong relationship between their two countries firstly, and between the West and the Islamic world secondly." Sources said that Obama did not hide admiration for King Abdullah's character, adding that he was "carefully listening" to the King's comments.

¶3. King Abdullah told Obama that the US was not taking part seriously enough in solutions proposed to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that the Arab peace initiative was proposed "not out of weakness but out of a sincere desire from Arabs to establish peace and live in peace," according to the sources.

¶4. The King added: "We need from you serious participation in solving the Palestinian issue and need you to enforce the solution if so required."

ERDMAN